Security Waivers

Waiver Generation

Waiver generation is the user organization's responsibility when an approved security standard cannot be satisfied. Waivers should be submitted for any identified vulnerability as a result of a periodic risk analysis, penetration analysis, self-audit processes, or an official ESDIS Project audit if the vulnerability cannot or will not be corrected within 60 days of its identification.

Waiver Format

If the self-certification process uncovers a recognizable system vulnerability that will not be corrected within 2 months, a request for waiver must be prepared and submitted to the ESDIS Project Office. The waiver request should describe the vulnerability, proposed solution, impact of the proposed solution on current activities, and expected duration of the waiver.

Appendix A of this document contains a suggested format for the essential elements of a waiver request. The waiver form lists the primary subjects to be addressed (e.g., EOSDIS element or external element, system name, vulnerability description, requested duration of the waiver, and justification). The description of the vulnerability and the wording of the waiver request must provide the essential information necessary to allow for an understanding and an evaluation of the vulnerability by ESDIS Information Technology Security Official. The ITR name and vulnerability description must be sufficiently unique to allow for identity-tracking of the submission. Each waiver request should be on a separate form to assist in the control and processing of requests.

Waiver Duration

Once a vulnerability is recognized, the ITR's responsible organization should estimate the time and cost to develop a solution. An estimate of the length of time for which the waiver is needed expedites the decision-making process for waiver approval and, establishes a target date for implementation of the fix.

For the convenience of reference, waivers have been divided into three classes:

- Temporary (4 to 6 months)
- Long-term (7 to 36 months)
- Permanent (more than 36 months)

Submission of Waivers to ESDIS Project Office

All requests for waivers of security vulnerabilities found in an EOSDIS ITR or an ITR interfacing with the EOSDIS system should be forwarded to

ESDIS Information Technology Security Official
Code 505
Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

Waiver Approvals

The ESDIS Information Technology Security Official, acting as the ESDIS Project Security Manager, will request the ESDIS Security Working Group to evaluate all waiver submissions. If the submission lacks adequate information for a comprehensive evaluation, this group will contact the submitting user organization for additional input, as necessary. The group will make its recommendation for disposition of the waiver, and the ESDIS Project Security Manager will then report to the ESDIS Project Management. Final disposition for the waiver will be given by the ESDIS Project Office. This approval sequence should be completed within 60 days, unless the waiver is of a magnitude such that NASA Headquarters must be consulted.

EOSDIS Security Policy Waiver Request Form

WR NO.:_____ **DATE RECEIVED.**
_____

WAIVER REQUESTED (Specific operational deviation):_____

TYPE (select one): 1:___ 2:____. 3:____ .**EST. RESOLUTION DATE:**_____
(1 = Temporary (4 to 6 months) 2 = Long-Term (7 to 36 months) 3 = Permanent (over 36 months)

------ (To be filled in by ESDIS Project Office)

DATE:_____

EOSDIS ELEMENT (or EXTERNAL FACILITY):_____

TECHNICAL CONTACT:_____

PHONE NUMBER:_____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS**
_____

MAILING ADDRESS:
_____

SYSTEM NAME:_____

DESCRIPTION OF VULNERABILITY (use additional sheets, if necessary):

_____
_____

_____
___

JUSTIFICATION (use additional sheets, if necessary):

_____
___

_____
Signature of Requester

(To be filled out by ESDIS Project Security Manager and returned to requester)

Assigned Security Analyst:_____

Analyst's comments:_____

_____ Date _____ CONCUR_____ NON-CUR_____

ESDIS Information Technology Security Official

_____ Date _____ APPROVED_____ UNAPPROVED_____
ESDIS Project Management Official